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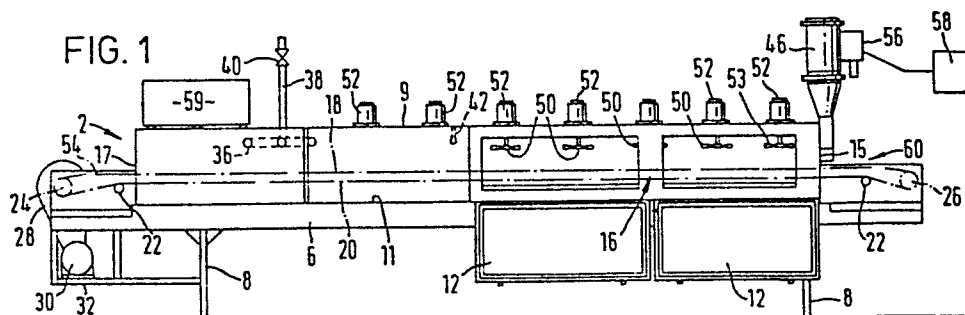
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(54) **Method and apparatus for cooling or freezing.**

(57) A video camera 56 is employed to monitor the loading with articles to be frozen of an endless belt which passes through a freezing apparatus so as to freeze such articles typically by contact with liquid nitrogen. The video camera 56 is associated with electronic circuits that generate a signal representative of the belt loading and compare it with a

signal representative of an optimum belt loading. If the difference between the signals is greater than a chosen threshold the belt speed is adjusted so as to reduce or eliminate the difference. By this means an improvement is made possible in the efficiency with which the liquid nitrogen is utilised.





DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. 4)
A	FR-A-2 083 514 (AIR PRODUCTS AND CHEMICALS) * Page 12, lines 10-29; figures 1-3 *	1,6,7,15	F 25 D 3/11 B 65 G 43/08
A	FR-A-2 492 783 (FIRMA WINDMOLLER & HOLSCHER) * Page 5, line 1- page 8, line 4; figures 1,2 *	1,2,7-9	
A	FR-A-2 216 197 (EASTMAN KODAK) * Page 3, line 24 - page 8, line 25; figures 1-5 *	1,2,7-9	
A	GB-A-2 088 808 (CLAAS) * Page 1, line 78 - page 2, line 15; figures 1-3 *	1,3,4,7,8,11-13	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. 4) F 25 D B 65 G A 23 L
A	GB-A-2 042 214 (JACKSTONE FROSTER) * Page 1, line 89 - page 4, line 17; figures *	1,7	
A	DE-A-3 015 978 (PROTRONIK PROGRAMMELEKTRONIK) * Whole document *	1,7	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 02-07-1986	Examiner BOETS A.F.J.
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			



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A	DE-A-2 952 050 (LEUZE ELECTRONIC)		
A	US-A-3 199 793 (SABI)		
A	US-A-4 086 998 (VAN DER SCHOOT)		
A	FR-A-2 518 072 (F.L. SMIDT)		
A	GB-A-1 341 697 (JACKSTONE FROSTER)		
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. 4)
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